

25X1

25X1

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
INFORMATION REPORT

This material contains information affecting the National Defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Laws, Title 18, U.S.C. Secs. 793 and 794, the transmission or revelation of which in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.

SECRET

COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Weekly Air Summary	DATE DISTR.	22 October 1954
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	2
PLACE ACQUIRED		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
This is UNEVALUATED Information		REFERENCES	

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

BY CABLE

A. Aircraft Strength:

1. IL-28's: Briesen - 29,
Werneuchen - 45,
Welsow - 16, all in mid-October;

Parohim - 3,
Jueterbog - 6, both in early October
2. MIG-15's: Altenburg - 24 on 5 October;

Neuruppin - 26,
Finow 58 to 60, both on 3 October.

25X1

B. Unit Activities:

1. General: Between 22 September and 6 October, most activity in the 24th Air Army was connected with the army fall maneuvers.
2. Bomber Units: IL-28 units repeatedly conducted major exercises in large formations. On 1 October, a formation of 30 IL-28's took off from Werneuchen and practiced flying for 90 minutes. At 1000 hours on 3 October, the bomber regiment based on Briesen airfield exercised in the Luebbenau area. During the afternoon of 3 October, a wedge formation of 36 IL-28's crossed over the Doberlug-Kirchhain area at an altitude of about 6,500 feet. The IL-28's were escorted by three formations of MIG-15's, consisting of ten, eight and six aircraft flying at an altitude of 3,000 to 3,500 feet, with some MIG-15's marked around the wings and the fuselage with black rings appearing to be more than three feet wide. Between 1500 and 1545 hours on 7 October, a formation of 36 IL-28's crossed over scattered clouds above the Wittenberg area at an altitude between 13,000 and 16,000 feet.

SECRET

STATE	ARMY	#X	NAVY	X	AIR	#X	FBI	AEC						
-------	------	----	------	---	-----	----	-----	-----	--	--	--	--	--	--

(NOTE: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

SECRET

- 2 -

3. Fighter Units: A large portion of the fighter units also participated in the fall maneuvers. Between 27 September and 5 October, while little air activity was being conducted at Merseburg, 26 MIG-15's from Merseburg were stationed at Dessau. Another 20 MIG-15's from an unidentified unit, which were also marked with dark rings, landed at Brandenburg-Briest on 1 October and remained until 3 October. During the same period, the IL-10 regiment based on Brandenburg-Briest airfield was stationed at Doeberitz. From 1 to 3 October, eight MIG-15's and eight IL-10's were stationed at Erfurt-Bindersleben airfield in addition to the four MIG-15's previously observed there. From 30 September to 2 October, MIG-15's from Neuruppin participated in army exercises in the area northeast of Neuruppin. Between 27 September and 1 October, alert formations of four MIG-15's at Neuruppin took off within 50 seconds after the firing of a red double-star shell. On 1 October, eight MIG-15's marked with black rings were observed at Wittstock.

4. Ground-Attack Units: Regiments of the ground-attack division at Brandenburg took part in the army maneuvers after 21 September. Between 22 and 27 September, while army exercises were being held in the Cottbus area, at least twelve IL-10's were stationed at Grossenhain. The regiment from Brandenburg-Briest, which on 5 and 6 October was reinforced by aircraft believed to be assigned to the regiment at Stendal, was stationed at Doeberitz from 25 September to 6 October. Various formation flights, with up to 40 IL-10's participating, took place at Doeberitz between 25 September and 6 October. On the latter date, 72 IL-10's left Doeberitz. On 13 October, 18 IL-10's were again observed at Doeberitz. At about 1010 hours on 3 October, a formation consisting of 24 twin-engine aircraft, followed by 30 to 40 IL-10's, flew over Doeberitz toward the west. One hour and three minutes later, the formation, escorted by 15 MIG-15's, crossed over Rathenow. At the same time, another formation of twin-engine aircraft crossed over Magdeburg and appeared to be headed toward Letzling Heath.¹

G. New Construction:

1. Querfurt: After the completion of soil tests in the prospective airfield area, preparations for the establishment of a construction site were started. Temporary buildings for workers and workshops were brought in from Vietmannsdorf.

2. Vietmannsdorf: It has been decided to widen the 9,500-foot connecting lane branching off southwestward from the main runway from 68 to about 200 feet. While the completed center section has a 16-inch concrete cover, the two extension strips, which are about 65 feet wide, are only about 12 inches thick. Only an 8,375-foot section of the connecting lane is to be widened. This would then be usable as a runway for fighters and light bombers.

3. Quedlinburg: The VEB Ing. Tiefbau Brandenburg is expected to receive orders for two additional airfield construction projects, apparently including one at Quedlinburg.

4. Luckau-Alteno: It is alleged that another construction staff will design a runway for the former Luckau-Alteno airfield.

25X1

Comment: Judging from descriptions, the twin-engine aircraft may have been LI-2's or TU-2's. The exercise probably involved transport aircraft which had come from somewhere outside East Germany, and which may have conducted landing exercises in Letzling Heath.

Comment: This is the first of a series of air summaries. It is anticipated that further summaries will be issued on a weekly basis.

25X1

N O D E X

SECRET